

10

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
9 August 2001 (09.08.2001)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 01/56625 A3

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: A61L 15/00,
D06M 23/06, 15/263

(81) Designated States (*national*): BR, CA, JP, MX.

(21) International Application Number: PCT/IB01/00387

(84) Designated States (*regional*): European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, TR).

(22) International Filing Date: 16 January 2001 (16.01.2001)

Published:

(25) Filing Language: English

— with international search report

(26) Publication Language: English

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:
28 March 2002

(30) Priority Data:
09/495,209 1 February 2000 (01.02.2000) US

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(71) Applicant: BASF CORPORATION [US/US]; 3000 Continental Drive-North, Mount Olive, NY 07828-1234 (US).

(72) Inventors: WHITMORE, Darryl, L.; 646 Willow Bend Drive, Chesapeake (US). ENGELHARDT, Friedrich; Hünfelderstrasse 20, 60386 Frankfurt (DE).



WO 01/56625 A3

(54) Title: ABSORBENT ARTICLE

(57) Abstract: Absorbent articles and processes for making absorbent articles are provided. The process includes spraying onto a fibrous web a blend containing superabsorbent polymer particles, superabsorbent forming monomer, initiator and water, and subjecting the web to polymerization conditions. The resulting web is useful as an absorbent article particularly in disposable hygiene products.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

national Application No

PCT / IB 01 / 00387

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 A61L15/00 D06M23/06 D06M15/263

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 A61L D06M

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	EP 0 290 814 A (MITSUBISHI PETROCHEMICAL CO ;UNI CHARM CORP (JP)) 17 November 1988 (1988-11-17) claims ---	1-4
A	US 4 748 076 A (SAOTOME KAZUO) 31 May 1988 (1988-05-31) the whole document ---	1-5,7,16
A	EP 0 454 497 A (NIPPON CATALYTIC CHEM IND) 30 October 1991 (1991-10-30) page 3, line 34 - line 39; claims ---	1-4
A	US 5 352 480 A (HANSEN MICHAEL R ET AL) 4 October 1994 (1994-10-04) abstract --- -/--	5



Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.



Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *Z* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

25 July 2001

Date of mailing of the international search report

06/08/2001

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl.
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Blas, V

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

national Application No

PCT / IB 01 / 00387

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 5 662 633 A (DOAK NANCY BECK ET AL) 2 September 1997 (1997-09-02) column 11, line 40 - line 53 ---	5,7,16
A	US 5 868 724 A (REZAI EBRAHIM ET AL) 9 February 1999 (1999-02-09) column 40, line 60 -column 41, line 21 ---	5,7,16
A	EP 0 402 650 A (WEYERHAEUSER CO) 19 December 1990 (1990-12-19) the whole document -----	1-4

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT / IB 01 / 00387

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
EP 0290814	A	17-11-1988	JP 2036403 C	28-03-1996
			JP 7064896 B	12-07-1995
			JP 63260906 A	27-10-1988
			AU 608825 B	18-04-1991
			AU 1471088 A	20-10-1988
			CA 1305098 A	14-07-1992
			DE 3875793 A	17-12-1992
			DE 3875793 T	08-04-1993
			ES 2036612 T	01-06-1993
			KR 9512335 B	17-10-1995
			US 4892754 A	09-01-1990
US 4748076	A	31-05-1988	JP 61194300 A	28-08-1986
			JP 61296162 A	26-12-1986
			JP 1022388 B	26-04-1989
			JP 1537425 C	16-01-1990
			JP 62133185 A	16-06-1987
			CA 1275789 A	06-11-1990
			DE 3672099 D	26-07-1990
			EP 0192216 A	27-08-1986
EP 0454497	A	30-10-1991	DE 69124749 D	03-04-1997
			DE 69124749 T	12-06-1997
			JP 2901368 B	07-06-1999
			JP 4227705 A	17-08-1992
			US 5264495 A	23-11-1993
US 5352480	A	04-10-1994	AU 5019893 A	15-03-1994
			AU 5019993 A	15-03-1994
			BR 9306920 A	12-01-1999
			BR 9306921 A	12-01-1999
			CA 2140263 A	03-03-1994
			CA 2140264 A	03-03-1994
			EP 0655970 A	07-06-1995
			EP 0655971 A	07-06-1995
			JP 8500270 T	16-01-1996
			JP 8500271 T	16-01-1996
			NZ 255814 A	25-06-1996
			NZ 255815 A	26-03-1996
			WO 9404351 A	03-03-1994
			WO 9404352 A	03-03-1994
			US 5693411 A	02-12-1997
			US 5672418 A	30-09-1997
			US 5547745 A	20-08-1996
			US 5641561 A	24-06-1997
			US 5607759 A	04-03-1997
			US 5547541 A	20-08-1996
			US 5571618 A	05-11-1996
			US 5611885 A	18-03-1997
			US 5998032 A	07-12-1999
			US 5789326 A	04-08-1998
US 5662633	A	02-09-1997	US 5334176 A	02-08-1994
			US 5382245 A	17-01-1995
			US 5281208 A	25-01-1994
			AU 696131 B	03-09-1998
			AU 7245494 A	17-01-1995
			CA 2165286 A	05-01-1995

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

national Application No

PCT / IB 01 / 00387

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 5662633 A		EP 0706363 A	17-04-1996
		JP 8511708 T	10-12-1996
		WO 9500095 A	05-01-1995
		US 5591150 A	07-01-1997
		AT 150958 T	15-04-1997
		AT 142467 T	15-09-1996
		AT 143247 T	15-10-1996
		AT 148831 T	15-02-1997
		AT 174208 T	15-12-1998
		AT 155032 T	15-07-1997
		AT 142468 T	15-09-1996
		AT 149823 T	15-03-1997
		AU 2348192 A	23-02-1993
		AU 663104 B	28-09-1995
		AU 2374292 A	23-02-1993
		AU 2383092 A	23-02-1993
		AU 2383192 A	23-02-1993
		AU 2399392 A	23-02-1993
		AU 662350 B	31-08-1995
		AU 2402592 A	23-02-1993
		AU 662757 B	14-09-1995
		AU 2420492 A	23-02-1993
		AU 2421392 A	23-02-1993
		AU 2507595 A	14-09-1995
		AU 2507695 A	14-09-1995
		AU 4021895 A	29-02-1996
		AU 4021995 A	29-02-1996
		AU 5844198 A	04-06-1998
		AU 5951498 A	01-10-1998
		AU 5954298 A	01-10-1998
		AU 696823 B	17-09-1998
		AU 6067196 A	03-10-1996
		AU 8189298 A	15-10-1998
		AU 8307898 A	24-12-1998
		BR 9205320 A	05-04-1994
		BR 9205329 A	05-10-1993
		BR 9205330 A	16-11-1993
		BR 9205346 A	16-11-1993
		BR 9206308 A	02-08-1994
		CA 2073815 A,C	24-01-1993
		CA 2092196 A,C	24-01-1993
		CA 2092197 A	24-01-1993
		CA 2092198 A,C	24-01-1993
		CA 2092199 A	24-01-1993
US 5868724 A	09-02-1999	US 5925299 A	20-07-1999
		AU 8121194 A	08-05-1995
		EP 0724419 A	07-08-1996
		JP 9504471 T	06-05-1997
		WO 9510995 A	27-04-1995
EP 0402650 A	19-12-1990	US 5100397 A	31-03-1992
		CA 2016733 A	14-12-1990
		JP 3051372 A	05-03-1991
		US 5171237 A	15-12-1992
		US 5246429 A	21-09-1993